

National Park Service

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Julie Meeks 912-882-4336**

Saint Marys, Georgia - Superintendent Jerre Brumbelow announced today that due to extensive rehabilitation projects, Plum Orchard Mansion, an 1898 Georgian Revival Mansion located on Cumberland Island National Seashore will be closed to the public until further notice. Plum Orchard Mansion was built by Lucy Carnegie for her son, George, and his wife Margaret Thaw in 1898. The donation of this mansion as well as funds from supporting foundations, helped win Congressional approval for establishing Cumberland Island National Seashore in 1972.

During this project, after the asbestos and other hazardous materials were removed at Plum Orchard, the work began on the following:

- Reconstruction of the North Piazza and repair of damage at the South Piazza
- Cracks are being repaired in the swimming pool area and an infiltration system is being installed at each downspout
- Fire suppression and alarm with fire reservoir are being installed at the site as well as installation of a generator
- Reinforcing of wood ramp, masonry, footing, handrails and stucco
- Refurbishing and rewiring of all electrical receptacles and lighting fixtures
- Enhanced ventilation system with fans, ductwork, controls, etc.
- Moderate conservation of historic wallpaper and finishes including plaster, woodwork, hardwood floors, paint, bathroom tile and basement stairs
- Upgrading plumbing in two restrooms on main floor and installing ADA accessible toilets